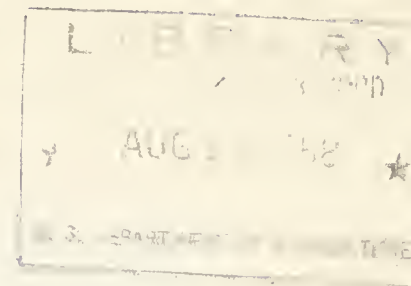


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# Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



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CANADIAN FLAXSEED ACREAGE  
DOWN SHARPLY; SOYBEAN UP

Canada's 1958 flaxseed and soybean acreages are placed at 2,665,000 and 260,000 acres, respectively, according to the first preliminary official estimate released August 12. Flaxseed plantings are thus one-fourth less than 1957 acreage and 17 percent less than March 1 intentions. Soybean plantings at 260,000 acres are about 2 percent larger than in 1957 and 7 percent above March 1 intentions.

# RHODESIAN TOBACCO EXPORTS STEADY

For the first 5 months of 1958, exports of unmanufactured tobacco from the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland totaled 37.2 million pounds--the same as for the comparable period of 1957. Flue-cured exports, at 32.6 million pounds, made up 88 percent of the total.

Exports to the United Kingdom were somewhat lower in the January-May 1958 period than a year earlier. This decrease was offset by a sharp rise in shipments to West Germany. That market took 5.1 million pounds this year--nearly all flue-cured--compared with 1.9 million pounds in January-May 1957.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, exports by country of destination, January-May 1957 and 1958

Country of destination	January-May	
	1957	1958
	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>
Australia.....	3,493	4,091
Belgium.....	1,170	1,174
Denmark.....	978	730
France.....	443	121
Germany, West.....	1,883	5,093
Hong Kong.....	574	829
Netherlands.....	2,345	2,346
Sierra Leone.....	587	607
Union of South Africa.....	473	1,000
United Kingdom.....	20,761	17,805
All other.....	4,465	3,435
Total.....	37,172	37,231

## PORTUGUESE TOBACCO COMPANIES INTRODUCE NEW CIGARETTES

The two tobacco companies which have the lease-monopoly on sales of tobacco products in Portugal recently introduced new cigarette brands of significance. One of the new brands contains about 80 percent U. S. tobacco and is considered a good cigarette. It sells for 3.10 escudos (10.8 U. S. cents) per pack.

The other new brand is Portugal's first domestically-produced filter-tip cigarette, selling for 4 escudos (14.0 U. S. cents) per pack. No. U. S. leaf is used in the blend for this filter cigarette.



#### INDONESIAN TOBACCO TO BE SOLD IN NETHERLANDS

An agreement has been reached between Indonesian authorities and a Netherlands broker for the sale of 31,000 bales of Java leaf. The tobacco will be shipped as soon as possible and is expected to be marketed at Rotterdam in September. This will supply a part of the Indonesian tobacco traditionally sold through the Netherlands.

#### FRENCH TOBACCO CROP SLIGHTLY LOWER

The 1958 crop of tobacco in France is placed at about 132 million pounds--down about 6 percent from the 1957 harvest. Crop conditions are reported as generally good, although cold weather and storms probably will make the harvest several weeks later than usual. Light air-cured types make up all but about 2 percent of the 1958 crop, with the remainder dark air-cured.

#### U.K. USINGS OF TOBACCO UP IN 1958

Factory consumption of unmanufactured tobacco in the United Kingdom, as indicated by gross clearances from bond, rose in the first 4 months of 1958 to 102.9 million pounds, compared with 101 million pounds cleared in the first 4 months of 1957.

Gross clearances of Commonwealth leaf in January-April 1958, at 45.6 million pounds, were 1.1 million pounds larger than for the comparable months of 1957. Usings of U. S. flue-cured rose from 48.5 million pounds in the first 4 months of 1957 to 50.5 million in the first 4 months of 1958. Usings of fire-, air-, and sun-cured tobaccos were slightly above the previous year, but oriental leaf declined.

Stocks of U.S. flue-cured in the United Kingdom, calculated on existing rates of usage, rose from about 20.1 months' supply in April 1957 to a 20.7 months' supply in April 1958. Stocks of Commonwealth flue-cured, on the same basis, declined from 17.5 months' supply in April 1957 to 15.7 months' supply in April 1958.

The United Kingdom imported 299 million pounds of tobacco in the 11 months July 1957-May 1958, of which 160 million pounds were from the United States and 20 million from Canada. During this period a year earlier total imports were 295 million pounds; 145 million from the United States and 30 million from Canada.

Source: Tobacco Intelligence, London.

# NEW ZEALAND ANNOUNCES 1958-59 FLOOR PRICE FOR WOOL

The New Zealand Wool Commission has announced that the average floor price for grease wool during the 1958-59 season will remain virtually unchanged at 38.5 cents per pound.

Minor adjustments will be made for certain inferior types and for lamb's wool, which apparently have been overprotected in relation to other types. These types accounted for a large part of the 47,000 bales (about 15 million pounds) purchased by the Wool Commission last season at the support level. Unless "exceptional or unforeseen circumstances" arise, the Wool Commission will continue to buy at the floor price, which varies with different types.

## AUSTRALIAN WOOL EXPORTS DOWN 8 PERCENT

Exports of raw wool from Australia through 11 months (July-May) of the 1957-58 season were down 8 percent from the same months of the previous season. The value of these shipments, however, was 26 percent lower--reflecting the sharp drop in wool prices.

Exports this season totaled 1,095 million pounds valued at \$713 million, while shipments last season totaled 1,193 million pounds valued at \$960 million. Shipments to the 3 largest markets, the United Kingdom, France, and Japan, were down 16 percent in each country. Exports to the United States and West Germany were also lower, but those to Italy and Eastern European countries increased.

WOOL, RAW: Australian exports, actual weight,  
July-May 1956-57 and 1957-58

Country of destination	July-May		Percent change
	1956-57	1957-58	
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Percent
United Kingdom.....	306.7	256.5	-16
France.....	207.0	174.3	-16
Japan.....	224.9	187.9	-16
Italy.....	117.1	130.8	+12
Belgium.....	95.7	95.6	---
Germany, West.....	84.1	73.9	-12
United States.....	45.3	33.4	-26
Poland.....	28.7	34.5	+20
Czechoslovakia.....	13.0	17.6	+35
Others.....	70.4	90.6	+29
Total.....	1,192.9	1,095.1	-8

# IRELAND TO SHIP BEEF TO NORWAY

Ireland plans to export beef to Norway during the second half of 1958 at the rate of 670,000 pounds per week. In an effort to be less dependent on its traditional market--the United Kingdom--Ireland is seeking new outlets for its beef and cattle. Considerable numbers of cattle have been exported to Western Europe, and beef exports to non-U.K. markets, including the United States, have been growing rapidly.

# CANADIAN CATTLE SLAUGHTER DROPS

Canadian inspected cattle slaughter during the second quarter (April-June) of 1958 dropped 2 percent below the same quarter of 1957. This was the first time since 1950 that second-quarter slaughter did not exceed that of the previous comparable quarter. Calf slaughter also declined, falling off 6 percent from the second quarter last year.

Both declines were probably due to the fact that low numbers were put on feed last fall and winter, when large quantities of feeder animals were sent to the United States. However, slaughter during the third quarter (July-September) of 1958 is expected to equal or exceed the same period of 1957 (see Foreign Crops and Markets, April 28, 1958).

Inspected hog slaughter, rising rapidly in recent months, was 11 percent above the same period in 1957. Further increases over last year are expected during the third quarter of this year.

Although sheep and lamb slaughter in second quarter 1958 rose 3 percent from last year, domestic production could not meet Canadian demand. Sheep and lambs continue to be imported from the United States, and lamb and mutton imports from New Zealand are increasing.

LIVESTOCK: Canada, inspected slaughter, with percent change  
from previous year, 1954-58

Year	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep and lambs	
	Number	Change	Number	Change	Number	Change	Number	Change
	1,000	Percent	1,000	Percent	1,000	Percent	1,000	Percent
1954.....	392	+16	283	+ 7	1,109	- 6	45	+25
1955.....	402	+ 3	291	+ 3	1,377	+24	57	+27
1956.....	443	+10	302	+ 4	1,476	+ 7	62	+ 9
1957.....	452	+ 2	308	+ 2	1,206	-18	62	---
1958.....	443	- 2	291	- 6	1,339	+11	64	+ 3

Source: Canadian Department of Agriculture.



# NETHERLANDS HOG NUMBERS DOWN

Netherlands hog numbers dropped from 2,528,000 in May 1957 to 2,467,228 in May 1958.

Although this decline is not large, it indicates that Netherlands hog producers are trying to bolster the week prices that have resulted from overproduction of pork and hog products in Northwestern Europe in recent years. Heavy production in these exporting countries especially during the last year has handicapped U. S. exporters of lard and hog variety meats.

# AUSTRALIAN MEAT EXPORTS DROP

Australian beef exports for the year ending June 1958 dropped 20 percent from the previous 12 months, mainly because drought reduced meat production -- especially high-quality export grades.

Although beef and veal exports may recover somewhat during the next 12-month period, they are not expected to exceed the high levels of 1956-57. Exports to the United States climbed sharply during the period. Most beef sent to the United States was boneless manufacturing meat from low-quality animals.

Mutton and lamb exports rose as sheep owners reduced stocks during the drought. Here again exports to the United States rose. Almost all (98.5 percent) of Australia's sheep meat exports to the United States during this period were low-grade manufacturing mutton.

Canned meat exports also rose as more unfinished canner cattle and sheep were marketed off drought-stricken ranges.

MEAT: Australian exports, product weight basis, 1953-54 through 1957-58, with percent change from previous year

Period	Not canned						Canned meat	
	Beef & veal		Mutton & lamb		Pork			
	Million pounds	Percent change	Million pounds	Percent change	Million pounds	Percent change	Million pounds	Percent change
July - June								
1953-54...	290.8	+32	100.2	-40	5.9	-25	140.9	-32
1954-55...	273.6	- 6	127.1	+27	8.5	+44	137.6	- 2
1955-56...	323.0	+18	118.9	- 6	3.6	-58	131.2	- .5
1956-57...	346.9	+ 7	77.8	-35	2.2	-39	109.6	-26
1957-58...	277.3	-20	111.0	+43	2.8	+27	133.3	+22

Source: Australian Meat Board.

## ARGENTINA ABANDONS "AFOROS" ON LIVESTOCK EXPORTS

On August 1, Argentina abandoned its system of "aforos" (minimum official rates) applied to exports of meat, wool, and other livestock products. A new system was set up whereby foreign exchange earned by Argentine exporters from these products is converted to pesos partly at the official rate (18 pesos to 1 U.S. dollar) and partly at the "free" rate (currently 42 pesos to 1 U.S. dollar).

The proportions of the exchange vary. In the case of beef, mutton, sheep skins, and grease wool, foreign exchange will be converted 35 percent through the free exchange market and 65 percent through the official exchange market. The ratio for beef variety meats, meat preserves, fats, and hides is reported to be 50-50. Exchange from wool top exports can be converted to pesos entirely on the free exchange market.

In general, these changes will enable exporters to realize greater peso returns on their products or to export at reduced foreign prices without lowering their peso earnings. The measure is expected to give relief to the depressed Argentine livestock industry.

## LARGER BRINED CHERRY PACK REPORTED IN ITALY

The Italian trade estimates the 1958 brined cherry pack (pitted and stemmed) at 12,000 short tons, an increase of nearly 3,000 tons over the trade's latest estimate of 9,100 tons for 1957.

The 1958 fresh cherry crop was large--an estimated 165,000 short tons. The 1957 crop, a short one, amounted to 124,300 tons. The 1956 crop, considered average, was 152,100 tons.

The 1958 harvest was delayed 10 to 12 days in the northern producing regions, Veneto and Emilia-Romagna, because of early-June cold spells and heavy rain which adversely affected quality. However, the production of brining cherries in these northern areas was heavy in consequence of the large fresh crop. In southern Italy, on the other hand--in Campania and Puglia--1958 production of brining cherries is believed light, since about half the crop was frost-damaged during blossom time. Also, considerable fly attack has been reported, particularly in southern Italy.

The packing of cherries in brine was finished this year in early July. Processors paid 8.0 cents per pound for cherries for brining this year, in contrast to 7.3 cents last year.

Italian wholesale prices of brined cherries are also somewhat higher than a year ago: 1st choice are 21.8 cents per pound; 2nd choice, 20.3 cents; and 3rd choice, 16 cents. Last year they sold for 21 cents, 19.6 cents, and 14.5 cents, respectively.

First-choice brined cherries were quoted at 27 cents per pound c. & f. New York in mid-July, while 2nd choice were quoted at 25 cents.

Virtually all of Italy's brined production--12,000 short tons--will be available for export. In addition, about 7,000 tons unstemmed and unpitted sulphurated cherries will be exported this season to France to be used in making glace cherries. French production of cherries for brining was reportedly very low this year. Italy's shipments of brined cherries to the United Kingdom are expected to be larger since Britain has abolished the import duty on them.

Italian exports of brined cherries have been as follows:

Country of destination	Crop year beginning June 1	
	1956-57	1957-58
	Short tons	Short tons
France.....	1/ 10,407	1/ 4,971
United Kingdom.....	2,276	2,002
Canada.....	3,153	1,986
United States.....	1,531	1,904
Other.....	3,020	2,942
Total.....	20,387	13,805
1/ Mostly sulphurated cherries (unstemmed and unpitted) for production of glace cherries.		

#### SPAIN PREDICTS SHARP INCREASE IN CITRUS PRODUCTION

Spain's first official estimate of the 1958-59 citrus crop predicts a sharp increase over 1957-58. Estimates of 1958-59 production by types, compared with last year, follows:

Type of fruit	1957-58	1958-59
	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes
Oranges:		
Navel.....	6,000	9,700
Verna and Valencia.....	1,900	3,000
Blood ovals.....	15,000	17,500
Whites.....	7,800	12,500
Tangerines, Satsuma and Clementines..	1,900	2,800
Total oranges and tangerines....	32,600	45,000
Lemons.....	1,000	1,500
Grapefruit.....	70	140



#### INDIAN CCCOA POWDER AND CHCCOLATE INDUSTRY ASKS CONTINUANCE OF TARIFF PROTECTION

Tariff protection for India's cocoa powder and chocolate industry is due to lapse on December 31, 1958, and the industry is asking that the protection be extended 3 to 5 years. The Indian Tariff Commission held public hearings on the question July 11 in Bombay and will submit its recommendations to the government.

The current tariff on imported cocoa powder is 35 percent ad valorem, and that on chocolate (other than confectionary) is 50 percent ad valorem or 1 rupee (\$0.21) per pound, whichever is higher.

#### U. S. IMPORTS MORE NON-COTTON VEGETABLE FIBERS IN 1957

U. S. imports of unmanufactured vegetable fibers (except cotton) in 1957 reached 276,311 long tons (of 2,240 pounds) valued at \$55,962,035, a gain of 6 per cent in quantity and 7 per cent in value over 1956. Compared with the 1946-50 average of 272,770 tons valued at \$80,616,713, the 1957 total slightly exceeds the average in quantity, but lags far behind it in value.

The principal gain over 1956 was in hard fibers, with abaca, henequen, and istle showing considerable increase. Imports of hemp, coir, and raffia also gained.

The United States imports almost all of its supply of vegetable fibers other than cotton, as well as significant quantities of manufactured fiber products. The major manufactured imports are rope, binder and baler twine, bagging, and yarns and cloth. Imports of jute bags, bagging, and burlap in 1957 amounted to \$82.3 million; all twines and cordage, \$29.4 million; and cloth and textile products of flax, hemp, and ramie, \$26.8 million.

Abaca prices in 1957 averaged the highest since 1951. Philippine Davao I, landed New York, averaged 27.0 cents a pound, compared with 22.1 cents in the preceding year. The lowest postwar annual average was 18.6 cents in 1954, after a peak of 32.1 cents in 1951.

Sisal prices continued a downward trend in 1957 with an average of 9.4 cents a pound for B. E. A. No. 1, landed New York, compared with 10.2 cents in 1956 and 10.4 cents in 1955. The average price was 29.7 cents in 1951. Since then, prices have steadily declined as world supplies have increased.



VEGETABLE FIBERS (except cotton): U.S. imports for consumption, quantity and value, 1955-57

Fibers, unmanufactured, and countries of origin	Quantity (long tons)		Value (dollars)	
	1955	1956	1957	1956
<b>Hard fibers:</b>				
Sisal .....	116,573	122,069	111,703	18,907,203
Henequen .....	30,792	9,603	13,207	4,896,512
Abaca .....	34,808	38,346	43,138	10,921,519
Istle .....	1,851	817	34,750	356,416
Magney .....	93	115	92	14,933
Total .....	184,117	170,950	202,890	35,096,583
<b>Soft fibers:</b>				
Jute .....	52,340	75,346	59,722	13,005,561
Flax 2/ .....	3,579	3,546	3,211	1,610,629
Sunn .....	1,424	1,779	1,898	240,218
Hemp 2/ .....	218	146	221	110,560
Ramie .....	22	47	16	11,795
Total .....	57,583	80,864	65,068	14,978,763
<b>Palm-type fibers:</b>				
Coir .....	839	819	885	81,432
Crin vegetal .....	612	610	394	53,320
Raffia .....	272	303	333	145,851
Palm, etc. 3/ .....	3,023	3,567	2,448	809,739
Total .....	4,746	5,299	4,060	1,090,342
<b>Other vegetable fibers:</b>				
Kapok .....	2,788	3,778	3,657	2,216,422
Broomfoot fiber .....	9	6	5	6,902
Others, not separately classified .....	1,078	336	631	212,707
Total .....	3,875	4,120	4,293	2,436,031
<b>Total unmanufactured fibers .....</b>	<b>250,321</b>	<b>261,233</b>	<b>276,311</b>	<b>53,601,719</b>

1/Preliminary. 2/Includes unhackled, hackled, noils, tow, and straw. Weights of the various classes are added without conversion to an equivalent fiber basis. Includes palmyra, piassava, and other palm fibers.

Compiled from records and publications of the Bureau of the Census.

#### NETHERLANDS EXPECTS RECORD SUGAR BEET CROP

The Netherlands planted a record 199,000 acres in sugar beets this spring. This is 25 percent more than the 159,000 acres sown last year. From this acreage, a record crop of 3.8 million tons of sugar beets is expected. These estimates are slightly higher than the previous records, in 1954, of 196,000 acres and 3.4 million tons of beets.

#### BRAZIL'S SUGAR EXPORTS LARGE

The press reports that in the first 40 days of the new sugar crop year (beginning June 1) Brazil has sold for export some 5.8 million bags of sugar of 60 kg. each, or about 383,600 short tons. This is nearly half of the total exportable surplus of about 775,000 short tons generally predicted for this season.

The export availability may be even larger if the current crop forecast is realized and if Brazilian consumption is no more than the normal 2,380,000 short tons. The Brazilian Sugar and Alcohol Institute recently estimated its centrifugal sugar production for 1958-59 at 3,380,000 short tons. The 1957-58 output was 3,114,000 short tons.

Brazilian sugar exports have been stimulated by the more favorable export exchange rate established June 10, 1958. The former rate of Cr \$67 per U. S. dollar allowed on sugar (4th category) was increased to Cr \$92.

#### LARGE ITALIAN WALNUT CROP FORECAST

The 1958 Italian walnut crop is unofficially forecast at 33,000 tons. This is in sharp contrast to the 1957 crop which turned out disappointingly small despite the earlier outlook for a large harvest.

The latest estimate for 1957 is 13,000 tons. Average production (1951-55) is 19,900 tons. The quality of the 1957 crop was poor, and many complaints are said to have been made by importers of Italian walnuts in 1957-58.

#### FRENCH WALNUT ESTIMATE REDUCED

The commercial walnut crop in France is now forecast at 22,000 short tons, unshelled.

Crop prospects were reduced from 29,000 tons due to reportedly severe hail damage in June. The current forecast, however, is larger than the harvest in 1957 (12,000 tons) or in 1956 (20,500 tons). Average production (1951-55) is 28,500 tons.



## FRENCH PRUNE CROP FORECAST

The 1958 crop of prunes in France has been forecast at 26,000 short tons, fresh basis. This is about the same as was harvested last year, when an estimated 7,800 tons of dried prunes were produced.

GREEK GOVERNMENT INCREASES RAISIN  
AND CURRANT SUPPORT PRICES

The Greek Government has set the 1958 grower support price for sultanas at 10.2 cents per pound, No. 4 grade, and for dried currants at 9.4 cents, Amalias. The 1957-crop support prices were 9.4 and 9.0 cents, respectively.

On the basis of these announced prices, the Autonomous Currant Organization (ASO) and the Confederation of the Sultana Growers Cooperatives (KSOS) will establish detailed support prices by grades and regions. Funds will be made available to both organizations so they can buy at these prices. Additional funds will be made available to KSPS so that it can also export.

The 1958 sultana crop is forecast at 55,000 short tons, an 11,000-ton decrease from last year's record crop. Average production (1951-55) is 44,400 tons.

The 1958 dried currant crop is forecast at 100,000 short tons, 7,000 tons more than the 1957 crop. Average production (1951-55) is 82,600 tons.

CANADIAN CHICK HATCH  
SHOWS GAIN

June was the first month this year showing a Canadian hatch of replacement egg-type chicks above the corresponding month of 1957. The June 1958 hatch was 4.5 million chicks hatched in regular hatcheries, 31 percent over last year.

However, even if this higher rate continues through 1958, the annual hatch will be below 1957. The Canadian flock replacement hatch is usually heavily concentrated in the first half of the year. During the first 6 months of 1958, the Canadian hatch totaled 52.8 million chicks, 11.3 percent under the corresponding period last year.

The recent increase in the hatch of egg-type chicks is probably due to the government's announcement of a 6-cent-per-dozen increase in the support price of eggs (see Foreign Crops and Markets, May 19, 1958).

## TRINIDAD PUBLISHES NEW IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR LIVE POULTRY

Trinidad recently issued a new Import Control Order (notice No. 11) which specifies the grades of live poultry eligible for import from the United States. Live poultry must be accompanied by USDA Form NIPP-15F, which classifies breeding poultry as:

1. "Production Stock"--suitable for egg or meat production.
2. "Reproduction Stock"--suitable for breeding purposes.
3. "Multiplier Stock"--suitable for producing hatching eggs within the limitations specified by the breeder.

The new order provides that any poultryman approved by the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) will be granted a license to import up to 1000 "Production" broiler and/or 1,000 "Production" egg laying stock during 1958. Poultrymen will be granted licenses to import up to 100,000 "Production" chicks of types not available in Trinidad, after proving intent to start a new farm. The farm must have a capital investment equal to \$58,000 U. S., and must include a hatchery supplying 10,000 chicks per month. Licenses for the larger imports will be granted up to June 30, 1959.

There will be no limit on imports of "Production: hatching eggs and "Reproduction" or "Multiplier" stock or hatching eggs.

The new regulation is a continuation of Notice No. 6 issued 2 years ago announcing the government's objective of enlarging the domestic hatching industry and establishing a self-sufficient poultry industry.

## ARGENTINE GRAIN SHIPMENTS DOWN 8 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

Argentine bread and coarse grain shipments during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1958, amounted to 4,481,000 metric tons, compared with 4,859,000 in 1956-57. This overall reduction of about 8 percent was due to a decline in exports of wheat, corn, and barley. Exportable supplies of these grains were short because of the poor harvest in 1957--the result of dry weather.

Exportable supplies of corn, however, were increased by the bumper corn crop in the spring of 1958, and corn exports picked up considerably in May and June. Argentina now has enough corn available to move more into export channels this year than in any of the past 10 years. Wheat exports cannot improve until the new crop is harvested in December and January. Unless the harvest is exceptionally good, even less wheat may be exported this fiscal year than last.

Exports of rye and oats during 1957-58 increased over the previous year, amounting to 282,000 and 590,000 metric tons, respectively, compared with 240,000 and 295,000.



## GRAIN: Argentine exports, July-June 1956-57 and July-June 1957-58

Country of destination	Wheat	Rye	Corn	Oats	Barley	Total
Metric tons						
July-June 1956-57:						
United States .....	—	—	—	6,067	—	6,067
Peru .....	150,373	—	—	—	—	150,373
Chile .....	98,560	—	—	—	—	98,560
Brazil .....	1,039,869	—	—	5,836	—	1,045,705
Paraguay .....	27,988	—	—	—	—	27,988
Uruguay .....	—	—	800	—	5,657	6,457
Sweden .....	—	10,651	—	—	—	10,651
Norway .....	22,607	11,900	—	—	—	34,507
Denmark .....	40,215	14,035	5,713	17,433	200	77,596
United Kingdom .....	264,474	—	138,872	7,005	20,124	430,475
Netherlands .....	168,082	51,129	222,350	73,896	137,005	652,462
Belgium-Luxembourg .....	66,566	25,451	154,482	22,098	40,079	308,676
France .....	149,662	—	131,886	14	500	282,062
West Germany .....	214,598	42,571	173,970	95,522	317,193	843,854
Austria .....	11,550	—	5,692	388	—	17,630
Czechoslovakia .....	—	—	—	6,935	2,000	8,935
Switzerland .....	36,188	4,516	19,959	2,370	3,545	66,578
Finland .....	4,400	35,375	10,162	—	—	49,937
Italy .....	346,549	44,289	169,839	52,386	37,093	650,156
Yugoslavia .....	450	—	—	—	378	828
Greece .....	—	—	—	4,568	—	4,568
Japan .....	—	—	58,727	—	—	58,727
North Africa .....	4,572	—	—	—	—	4,572
South Africa .....	21,516	—	—	—	—	21,516
Total .....	2,668,219	239,917	1,092,452	294,518	563,774	4,858,880
Equivalent, 1,000 bu. ...	98,039	9,445	43,007	20,290	25,894	196,675
July-June 1957-58						
United States .....	—	—	6,220	—	—	6,220
Peru .....	77,050	—	9,000	—	—	86,050
Bolivia .....	3,000	—	—	—	—	3,000
Chile .....	194,494	—	75	—	—	194,569
Brazil .....	732,906	—	—	7,915	2,515	743,336
Paraguay .....	59,403	—	—	—	—	59,403
Sweden .....	850	11,750	100	21,395	—	34,095
Norway .....	6,980	9,925	—	—	—	16,905
Denmark .....	16,572	5,390	5,425	58,832	—	86,219
United Kingdom .....	283,702	953	26,836	43,542	10,022	365,055
Netherlands .....	101,405	72,829	238,864	129,245	92,296	634,639
Belgium-Luxembourg .....	67,245	19,591	251,221	37,110	23,135	398,302
France .....	12,300	—	6,085	510	1,490	20,385
West Germany .....	381,788	73,246	106,580	144,989	299,483	1,006,086
Austria .....	550	2,000	3,735	450	930	7,665
Czechoslovakia .....	—	—	—	11,729	2,650	14,379
Switzerland .....	13,500	2,000	15,605	39,213	2,596	72,914
Finland .....	—	21,515	—	800	—	22,315
Spain .....	4,800	—	—	—	—	4,800
Italy .....	90,243	62,519	296,156	80,111	52,763	581,792
Yugoslavia .....	1,000	—	—	2,990	11,240	15,230
Rumania .....	—	500	—	2,225	—	2,725
Japan .....	—	—	54,265	—	—	54,265
North Africa .....	9,385	—	2,000	—	—	11,385
South Africa .....	28,860	—	—	8,686	1,385	38,931
Total .....	2,086,033	282,218	1,022,167	589,742	500,505	4,480,665
Equivalent, 1,000 bu. ...	76,648	11,110	40,241	40,630	22,988	191,617

## TURKEY'S 1958 GRAIN CROP TO COVER DOMESTIC NEEDS

Turkey's 1958 grain harvest is estimated to be only slightly below the large 1957 harvest. The prospective production, together with carry-over stocks, will more than meet domestic requirements for grains, and Turkey is expected to be back on a net export basis in 1958-59.

Wheat production, now estimated at about 245 million bushels, compares with 250 million in 1957. The 1950-54 average was 214 million. The supply for the current season, however, is somewhat larger than in 1957-58, as carryover stocks are larger.

Grain prices and subsidies are to remain at the 1957-58 level, despite a steady increase in the cost of living. The government is said to be reluctant to increase prices since bread is such an important part of the national diet.

## DUTCH ISSUE TWO NEW QUALITY CONTROL MARKS FOR CHEESE

The Netherlands Ministry of Agriculture recently approved two new Quality Control Marks for cheese.

As reported in the Holland Cheese News, the first new mark will identify Gouda cheese produced on farms and will use the word "Boerenkass" (Farm-made cheese). Formerly, this cheese carried the same marking as factory-produced Gouda. The farm-produced variety usually is a higher-priced Gouda, and the new mark will permit easier consumer recognition.

The second new Quality Control Mark will identify squareshaped whole-milk cheese, now in limited production for the West German market in spite of earlier objections by Dutch manufacturers (see Foreign Crops and Markets, August 19, 1957).

The new marks will be used in addition to the three existing Quality Control Marks, which denote wheel-shaped, whole milk cheese; part skim milk cheeses; and skim milk cheese. These marks were first introduced in 1913 and certify that the cheese has been made in accordance with quality standards supervised by the government. The marks are made from thin casein disks, affixed to the cheese immediately after manufacture. In time the mark becomes part of the rind and cannot be removed without damaging the rind. The marks are a Dutch invention; they are made in a special plant in Leyden and are registered in the name of the producer to whom they are issued. Exportation of Dutch cheese without such marking has been prohibited since 1919.



#### GREECE ANNOUNCES 1958 WHEAT SUPPORT PRICE

The Government of Greece has set its basic support price for 1958-crop wheat at 3.50 drachmas per oka (\$2.46 per bushel).

The "privileged price," i.e., that guaranteed for given quantities of wheat from small farmers, is 4.60 drachmas per oka (\$3.24 per bushel). Support prices for last year's crop were \$2.46 for soft wheat and \$3.06 per bushel for hard wheat. The support price for new-crop hard wheat apparently has not yet been announced.

Farmers with small holdings will receive cash in full for wheat deliveries to the government. Farmers having 10 to 20 acres will receive 50 or 75 percent cash, depending on the size of their holding, with the balance in interest-bearing bank deposits withdrawable after 4 months. Farmers with larger holdings will be paid through collateral loans from the Agricultural Bank.

#### ECUADOR HARVESTS LARGE RICE CROP

Ecuador's 1958 rice crop is large and above-average in quality. The harvest is principally from May through August. Exports of 4,100 metric tons of the new crop have reportedly already been shipped to Venezuela.

Ecuador exported 5,544 tons of rice from January to May 1958, compared with 6,507 tons in the same months of 1957. The 1957 rice crop was the largest in 5 years.

#### SURINAM'S RICE CROP IN EXCELLENT CONDITION

Surinam's rice crop in mid-July was in excellent condition. If weather continues favorable, the 1958 harvest will probably be around 175 million pounds of rough rice, exceeding the previous record crop of 157 million pounds in 1956.

The 1957 crop, sharply reduced by drought, amounted to only 121 million pounds. Average production in 1950-54 was 126 million pounds.

Surinam has been steadily increasing rice acreage in recent years, mainly in the Wageningen Project (see Foreign Crops and Markets, February 17, 1958). Export availabilities from the 1958 crop grown in that project will probably be around 53 million pounds (24,000 metric tons) of milled rice. The rice is harvested in September and October.

# JAPAN'S RICE CROP ABOVE NORMAL

The growing condition of Japan's 1958 rice crop as of July 15 was better than normal, according to a July 29 report by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Assuming such a condition throughout the season, production is unofficially estimated at 31,670 million pounds of rough rice, second only to the record 1955 crop of 33,960 million pounds.

The Ministry's announcement stated that very dry, hot weather favored growth of irrigated rice in most areas, though some drought damage was reported. Dry conditions affected the upland areas somewhat, especially in Kyushu; but upland rice represents only about 3 percent of production.

# TURKEY ADJUSTS ITS EXCHANGE RATE SYSTEM

The Government of Turkey has announced an adjustment in its exchange system effective August 4, 1958. By using a surcharge and premium applied to the par value of 2.80 Turkish liras per U.S. dollar, a single effective import rate and three effective export rates are established. Simultaneously, all previous multiple currency practices are abolished.

This new system is part of a broad stabilization program designed to arrest inflationary pressures, strengthen the Turkish balance-of-payments position, and prepare the ground for future balanced development of its resources. An increased supply of goods on the domestic market should restrain price increases and promote internal confidence in the national currency.

The new exchange rate for imports, applicable to all commodities, is LT 9.00 per U.S. dollar. The three new rates applicable to exports of agricultural and related commodities are:

Export category	Commodities included	New exchange rate <sup>1/</sup>
		Turkish liras per U.S. dollar
A.....	Tobacco, chromium, copper, opium	4.90
B.....	Raisins, hazelnuts, figs	5.60
C.....	Wheat, barley, mohair, livestock, fresh fish, molasses, pistachio nuts, citrus fruits, cotton, iron ore, sugar, and all other	9.00

<sup>1/</sup> The official par value of LT 2.80 per U. S. dollar plus the premiums.



CORRECTION

In the table showing Canadian wheat and flour exports, page 18 of the August 11 issue of Foreign Crops and Markets,

Columns 1 and 4 should be headed "Wheat"

" 2 and 5 should be headed "Flour"

" 3 and 6 should be headed "Total"

JAPAN AUTHORIZES SOYBEAN  
IMPORTS AS SCHEDULED

During the last week of July, the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture authorized the import of 75,000 metric tons of soybeans and issued certificates of authorization to soybean users. It was expected that the Ministry of International Trade and Industry would shortly issue import certificates to trading firms for about the same quantity.

This means that imports of about 150,000 metric tons of soybeans have been authorized for the second quarter (July-September) of Japanese fiscal year 1958 (beginning April 1, 1958). With the latest authorization, 300,000 metric tons have been approved for import during April-September, as previously scheduled. All of the imports authorized for the first half of JFY 1958 are intended only for domestic use as food.

The government had originally set the JFY 1958 soybean import goal at 770,000 metric tons, including 70,000 tons for feed and 100,000 tons for processing into oils for reexport, leaving 600,000 metric tons for domestic food requirements.

While soybean imports to meet food needs are on schedule, it is reported that as of July 1, imports of only 18,000 tons had been authorized to process into oils for export. The oil export business has been sluggish in recent months, and the government is said to be studying the world oil market so that soybean imports to be reexported as oil can be determined accordingly.

With respect to soybean imports for feed use, the government called for bids in July on 10,000 tons. Tenders for the remaining 25,000 tons for the first half of JFY were expected to be called for this month (August).

As allocations of foreign exchange for soybean imports are now on a global basis, an end user or trading firm granted an allocation can buy soybeans from any country with which Japan has trade relations. The oil-processing trade--which prefers U.S. beans because of their higher oil and protein content--is concerned over the possibility that trade relations will be resumed with Communist China, and that late this fall or in early 1959 Japan may purchase 265,000 metric tons of soybeans from Communist China in exchange for steel and steel products. The trade is therefore said to be pressing for continuance of the global system during the October-March period and, if possible, permanently.

#### INDIA ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL EXPORT QUOTAS FOR OILCAKE

The Indian Government has announced additional quotas of oilcake for export through September 1958. The new quotas include 5,000 long tons each of nigerseed and safflower seed oilcake and 10,000 tons each of linseed and copra oilcake. The quotas were announced at the end of July.

#### INDONESIA'S REGISTERED COPRA EXPORTS DOWN SHARPLY FIRST 6 MONTHS; PALM OIL UP

Indonesian registered exports of copra in June were 1,202 gross long tons. This brings total exports for the first half of the year to 21,210 tons, about one-fifth the quantity shipped in the first 6 months of 1957. This excludes large shipments of unregistered copra to Singapore, Penang, and British North Borneo, estimated at 80,000 tons for the first 5 months of 1958.

Copra cake exports in June, at 6,333 long tons, were one-fifth below those of May. Shipments in the first 6 months of the year were 10 percent below those in January-June 1957.

Palm oil exports of 8,909 short tons in June were 15 percent below May shipments, January-June exports totaled 55,020 tons, an increase of over one-half from the comparable period last year.

Palm kernel exports in June were 3,438 short tons, 5 percent below those of May. Shipments in the first 6 months of the year totaled 21,890 tons, 12 percent above January-June 1957 exports.

#### JAPAN REDUCES COTTON IMPORTS FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR

The Japanese Government announced on July 15, 1958, that foreign exchange allocations for raw cotton imports would be reduced in the second half (October-March) of the current Japanese fiscal year.

This action will reduce imports by 200,000 bales. As a result, total imports in this fiscal year will be 1,800,000 bales, instead of 2,000,000 bales as originally planned. Imports during the previous fiscal year were 2,600,000 bales.

Foreign exchange has already been allocated to cover imports of 962,000 bales, leaving a balance of 838,000 bales still to be imported this fiscal year. According to Japanese trade representatives, the sources of the remaining imports probably will be as follows: 250,000 bales from Egypt, Brazil, Pakistan, and other countries with which Japan has or may negotiate trade or barter agreements; 400,000 bales from the United States; and 188,000 bales from Mexico, Peru, El Salvador, and Guatemala.



U.S. COTTON IMPORTS  
INCREASE IN MAY

U. S. imports of cotton (for consumption) were equivalent to 4,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in May 1958, compared with 2,000 bales in April and 5,000 bales in May 1957. Most of the May imports were short-staple harsh or rough Asiatic-type cotton from India and Pakistan.

Total cotton imports during August-May 1957-58 were 138,000 bales, compared with 79,000 bales in the corresponding 1956-57 period. Most of the increase in 1957-58 was in imports of long-staple upland cotton from Mexico. Increased quantities were also imported from Peru, Egypt, India, and Pakistan.

COTTON: U. S. imports by country of origin, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1955 and 1956, and August-May 1956-57 and 1957-58

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of origin	Year beginning August 1					
	Average		1955	1956	August-May	
	1935-39	1945-49			1956-57	1957-58
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Brazil.....	3	1	1	2	2	1
China.....	1/ 31	2/	0	0	0	0
Egypt.....	63	103	60	36	33	30
India.....	3/ 67	3/ 103	6	4	3	6
Mexico.....	23	19	22	22	22	74
Pakistan.....	3/	4/ 12	22	16	11	13
Peru.....	1	23	23	8	7	13
Sudan.....	5/	1/ 4	2	2/	2/	2/
U.S.S.R.....	6/ 5	4/ 1	1	0	0	0
Other countries.....	0	0	2/	1	1	1
Total 7/.....	8/185	8/ 260	137	9/ 89	79	138

1/ 4-year average. 2/ Less than 500 bales. 3/ Pakistan included with India prior to partition in 1947. 4/ 3-year average. 5/ Included with Egypt prior to 1942. 6/ 2-year average. 7/ Includes small quantities which are reexported each year. 8/ Total does not add due to partial averages. 9/ Does not include the equivalent of 47,132 bales (500 lb. gr. wt.) of Egyptian cotton released from the national stockpile of extra-long-staple cotton and entered under the import quota on July 31, 1957.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

# U.S. COTTON LINTERS IMPORTS DROP IN MAY

U. S. imports of cotton linters, mostly felting qualities, were 7,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in May 1958. This was a drop of 46 percent from April imports of 13,000 bales, and a decline of 12 percent from May 1957 imports of 8,000 bales.

Imports during August-May 1957-58 were 126,000 bales, compared with 125,000 bales in the corresponding 1956-57 period. By principal countries of origin, imports were as follows (in bales):

Country	August-May		Country	August-May	
	1956-57	1957-58		1956-57	1957-58
Mexico.....	82,000	92,000	Brazil.....	4,000	2,000
U.S.S.R.....	30,000	16,000	Syria.....	2,000	2,000
Belgium.....	2,000	4,000	Guatemala.....	1,000	1,000
El Salvador.....	1,000	3,000	Nicaragua.....	127	1,000
Iran.....	0	2,000	Pakistan.....	0	1,000

# COLOMBIA HAS LARGER CROP OF LONG-STAPLE COTTON

An estimated 14,000 bales (500 pounds gross) of long-staple cotton were produced in the Cauca Valley of Colombia in 1957-58. This was the first significant crop of this type cotton, although small amounts were grown in 1955-56 and 1956-57. The Colombian Cotton Institute expects 1958-59 production to reach approximately 20,000 bales.

Because of the strong domestic demand for long-staple cotton, the Cotton Institute is also encouraging its production in the Magdalena and Huila departments. Colombia's total cotton production for 1957-58 is estimated at 110,000 bales, up 7 percent from the 1956-57 crop of 103,000 bales.

# MEXICO GROWING MORE COTTON

Cotton production in Mexico for the 1958-59 season is forecast at 2,240,000 bales (500 pounds gross). This is an increase of 7 percent from the 2,085,000 bales produced in 1957-58, and is only slightly below the record 1955-56 crop of 2,250,000 bales.

The increase in production is the result of increased acreage, also the second largest on record. Plantings in 1958-59 amounted to 2,425,000 acres, compared with 2,250,000 acres in 1957-58, 2,095,000 acres in 1956-57, and the record 2,700,000 acres in 1955-56.

The 1958-59 crop is expected to set new records in the west coast states of Sonora and Sinaloa, and in the Matamoros and Mexicali districts. Some decline in production is expected in Delicias, Chihuahua, and LaPaz. Ginning of the 1958-59 crop is well under way.



Mexico's cotton exports during August-April 1957-58 totaled 1,219,000 bales--up about 11 percent above exports of 1,103,000 bales in the comparable 1956-57 period. Shipments increased to all major importers of Mexican cotton except France, Japan, and the United Kingdom.

Exports to the United States increased considerably. In addition to about 18,500 bales normally exported to this country each year under the country quota, the United States took about 55,000 bales under the 1957-58 global quota for cotton stapling 1-1/8 inches or longer.

Quantities exported direct to major destinations during August-April 1957-58, with comparable 1956-57 figures in parentheses, were: Japan 194,000 bales (263,000); United States 74,000 (18,000); West Germany 41,000 (33,000); Switzerland 35,000 (3,000); Netherlands 30,000 (21,000); Canada 25,000 (2,000); United Kingdom 23,000 (29,000); Belgium 15,000 (11,000); and France 15,000 (48,000).

In addition to total direct exports, over 60 percent of Mexico's exports are transshipped to other countries through U.S. ports. Transshipments in August-March 1957-58 (Foreign Crops and Markets, August 11, 1958) came to 638,000 bales, compared with 785,000 in August-March 1956-57.

A slight increase in 1957-58 cotton consumption expected early in the season did not materialize. Usage is now estimated at about 460,000 bales--3 percent less than 1956-57 consumption of 475,000 bales. Tighter credit restrictions are making it more difficult for mills to move finished goods. Carryover stocks of 1957-58-crop cotton on August 1, 1958, were estimated at 230,000 bales, the largest since 1947-48. These stocks, along with the larger current crop, will make supplies unusually large in 1958-59.

Sales of Mexican cotton have been slow in recent weeks. Matamoros spot cotton prices dropped more than 3 cents per pound from late May to about mid-July. C.i.f. prices for Mexican cotton at Liverpool and Bremen fell about 2½ cents, placing it nearly 3 cents per pound below comparable U.S. qualities. Reports that the export tax might be reduced or abolished caused buyers to delay purchases of Mexican cotton. The record supply of Mexican cotton expected in 1958-59 also contributed to the buying delay.

Prices advanced slightly after the government announced on July 17 that the cotton export tax would not be reduced. It was also announced that the Central Bank of Mexico would authorize banks to grant loans with cotton as collateral, so that farmers would not have to sell their cotton at prices considered too low.

According to Mexican press reports, the Minister of Agriculture has announced that the two government banks financing agricultural production will guarantee farmers operating through them a minimum of 300 pesos per quintal (23.68 cents per pound) for cotton, basis SM 1-1/16 inches. This financing represents an estimated 20 to 25 percent of total cotton production in Mexico. The remainder is financed privately and is not included in this guarantee.

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